

Message Text

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ACTION CPR-01

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7244

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1883

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, UN, DR, OAS

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES FOR
SIGFRIDO S. OBJIO

1. DOMINICAN MISSION TO UN IS GREATLY CHAGRINED AND CONCERNED OVER NOMINATION BY GODR OF SIGFRIDO S. OBJIO AS MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY TO DOMINICAN MISSION TO UN. AS RESULT GENERAL DISCUSSION WITHIN MISSION, AMBASSADOR PIANTINI HAS CALLED ON AMBASSADOR BENNETT, SAYING THAT HE CAME AS AGREED REPRESENTATIVE OF ENTIRE MISSION STAFF. HE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED PERMREP MORENO-MARTINIZ AND ALTERNATE REP DE LA MAZA AS HAVING COMMISSIONED HIM TO APPROACH USUN.

2. PIANTINI COMMENTED THAT OBJIO (IN ORAL CONVERSATION HE GAVE HIS NAME AS RODRIQUEZ OBJIO, FORMERLY WITH DOMINICAN MISSION TO OAS, BUT CORRESPONDENCE IN USUN FILES CARRIES HIM WITH NAME REFERRED TO ABOVE) IS KNOWN TO HIS MISSION AS MAN OF BAD REPUTATION AND IT WAS UNANIMOUS VIEW OF SENIOR MEMBERS OF MISSION THAT OBJIO WAS ENTIRELY UNSUITABLE CHOICE. HE AND HIS MISSION COLLEAGUES ARE GREATLY EMBARRASSED OVER NOMINATION, AND HE SOUGHT OUR HELP IN PERSUADING DOMINICAN GOVERNMENT TO WITHDRAW NOMINATION. SINCE THERE ARE APPARENTLY PERSONAL DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN MORENO AND OBJIO, PIANTINI SAID HE HAD BEEN CHOSEN TO TAKE UP THE MATTER WITH US. MISSION HOPES THAT USGOVERNMENT WILL DENY OBJIO DIPLOMATIC STATUS AND PIANTINI URGED THAT, IF OTHER COURSE IS NOT
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POSSIBLE, AMBASSADOR HURWITCH PERSUADE PRESIDENT

BALAGUER AND DOMINICAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO WITHDRAW NOMINATION
IN INTEREST OF GENERAL DOMINICAN REPUTATION.

3. MEANWHILE, DOMINICAN MISSION HAS SUBMITTED REQUEST TO
USUN FOR EXTENSION OF USUAL PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.
MISSION HAS EXPLAINED IT HAD NO RECOURSE BUT TO
GO AHEAD WITH ACTION IN VIEW OF INSTRUCTIONS FROM SANTO
DOMINGO.

4. USUN FILES INDICATE OBJIO HAS BEEN IN TROUBLE WITH
DEPARTMENT DURING HIS SERVICE ON DOMINICAN OAS, BOTH AS
TO UNPAID BILLS AND AS TO HIS FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH REQUIREMENTS
CONCERNING HIS DIPLOMATIC STATUS. IN ADDITION, IT
APPEARS THAT OBJIO IS UNDER INVESTIGATION BY DEPARTMENT OF
JUSTICE BECAUSE OF EARLIER FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH
THE ACT REQUIRING REGISTRATION OF FOREIGN AGENTS.
SINCE MATERIAL IN OUR FILES WAS FURNISHED US BY DEPARTMENT,
DEPARTMENT IS, OF COURSE, FULLY INFORMED WITH RESPECT TO
OBJIO PROBLEM.

5. AT LEAST WE CAN DRAG OUR FEET ON REQUEST FOR PRIVILEGES
AND IMMUNITIES AND RAISE QUESTIONS REGARDING OBJIO'S
FULL INTENTIONS. FROM THE SOUND OF IT, THERE MAY WELL BE
ADEQUATE GROUNDS FOR REJECTING OBJIO. DEPARTMENT'S
VIEWS REQUESTED.
BENNETT

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